

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

in the specification, in the paragraph starting at page 1, line 5, in lines 3-4 of that paragraph, (refer to the amendment to the specification filed on August 20, 2003):

"filed 29 June 1999; which is a continued prosecution application (CPA) of U.S. application Serial No. 09/259,168," has been deleted; and

"which is a continuation application of U.S. application Serial No. 08/795,672, now U.S. Patent No. 5,875,972; which is a CPA of U.S. Serical No. 08/795,672, filed 6 February 1997" has been deleted and replaced with -- which is a continuation application of U.S. application Serial No. 08/795,672, filed 6 February 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,875,972--. 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher S. Kim whose telephone number is (571) 272-4905. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Len Tran can be reached on (571) 272-1184. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Christopher S. Kim/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3752

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